

# Lexicography for language revival: Gamilaraay and Yuwaalaraay lexicography since 1975



John Giacom ANU



David Nathan GROOTE EYLANDT LANGUAGE CENTRE

Australex 2019

ANU, Canberra, 3rd September 2019



Winangaylanha !

# Lexicography or lexigenesis?

How do we say?

NRL; We are proud to represent

Happy Fathers Day

Rugby League Indigenous Stars

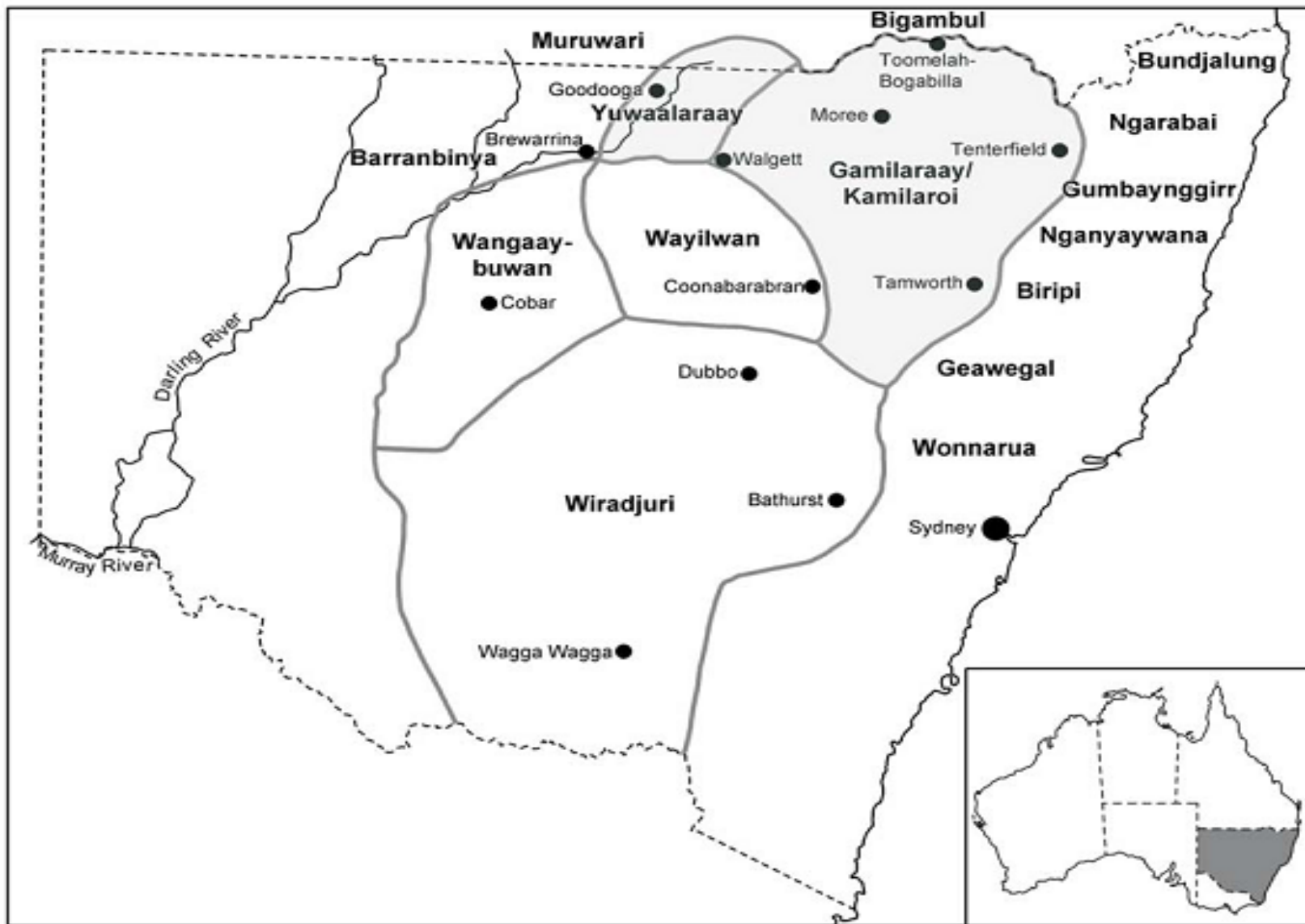
Shower, take a

Bush tucker garden

Sunburnt country, far horizons

Recipe: bake; oven, oil

the oldest culture



Tribe of Wang-i-pong

Aboriginal words with their English meanings.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Bapirra - Turru - Yall - Yunkee<br>Yunkee | Big Drought<br>Comet (which causes a drought<br>bringing a lot of fire which<br>dries up the rain) |
| Gung-ung<br>Bunthra - Bourn               | Big Flood<br>Thunderstorm  |
| Bunthra - Bourn - Ti - loelina<br>Thuna   | Thunder Storm coming thro' the<br>Sun  |
| Thuna - Butra                             | Sun rising   |
| Thuna - Ku - oona                         | Sun setting  |
| Kee - Wah - Butra                         | Moon rising  |
| Kee - wah - Ku - oona or Kupela           | Moon setting   |
| Milpa                                     | Morning Star   |
| Werrinka - Werrinka                       | Evening Star   |
| Murra - Wungraa                           | Seven Sisters  |
| Kuna - pa - pa                            | Milkway  |

Marriage the Laws of marriage in the tribe of Wang-i-pong divided into four families for marriage purposes.

|            |         |  |
|------------|---------|--|
| 101 Family | Kap-pee | } all families take their name from the male thus Kap-pat - Tar & Kap-pee are the male & female of the Kap-pee family<br>} So on |
| 102 Family | Kam-poo |  |
| 103 Family | Maree   |  |
| 104 Family | Epee    |  |

The female of the Kap-pee family can marry the male of the Kam-poo family.

|                     |                                       |                   |                              |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| hold                | { kummi or<br>kumulta                 | pleased be        | kuia dūrule                  |
| jump                | pāri                                  | plunder           | { kār'mille<br>(past) kārāmi |
| keep                | wimuldi                               | pour              | { yāri or<br>yeremulle       |
| kick                | { dūduna or<br>gigirma                | praise            | baollona                     |
| kill (dead-strike)  | bālubūma                              | prepare           | būkanmulle                   |
| kiss                | gaikaiala                             | put               | maiabia                      |
| know                | { tirune or<br>winujailun             | put up            | maiald'na                    |
| laugh               | gindami                               | put down          | wiald'na                     |
| learn               | yirabaiane                            | quiet             | maiala                       |
| leave off           | tubilun                               | rejoice           | yūgali                       |
| let go (don't)      | tubbia or kurria                      | remember          | winujail'na                  |
| lift                | tōme                                  | rend              | baraine                      |
| lose                | { wungurim' or<br>mūrgin              | return (trans.)   | kār'bille                    |
| make                | gim'bi                                | return (intrans.) | taraoēle                     |
| make (by hand)      | murrāmulle                            | rise              | warren                       |
| make (by chopping)  | baia or baialda                       | run (imperative)  | burrai                       |
| make (by splitting) | { baraile, bharūni,<br>or mārūbild'na | run               | { bunnayunne or<br>punagai   |
| make (constitute)   | mugille                               | save              | yūon waragil                 |
| paint               | karuldai                              | see               | gummi                        |
| pierce              | dūni or dūrilli                       | seek              | kīrumēgu                     |
| pinch               | nimmolli                              | send              | wāla                         |
|                     |                                       | sew (with needle) | gijipe                       |
|                     |                                       | shake             | būlumbulā                    |



**GURRE KAMILAROI:  
OR  
KAMILAROI SAYINGS  
BY  
WILLIAM RIDLEY,  
MISSIONARY.  
THE ENGRAVINGS BY W. MASON.**

**g giwir.**

g giwir.



**i inar.**

i inar.



**j jimba.**

j jimba.



**k karāji.**

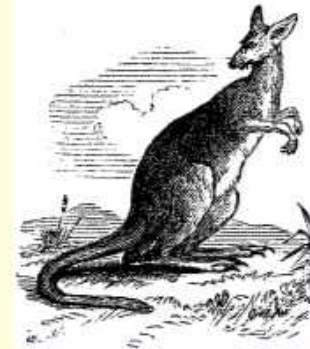
k karāji.



ippai, murri, kubbi, kumbo.  
ippata, mata, kapota, buta.  
yara, gille, taon, wi, boiyoi.  
giwir, inar, birri, miē.  
kaigal, bub a, gumba.  
wurume, gummuḡā.  
dai ādi, bōādi.

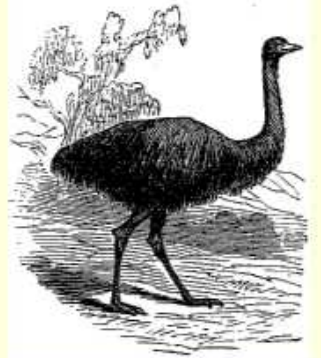
**b bundar.**

b bundar.



**d dīnoun.**

d dīnoun.



# Summary timeline to 1975

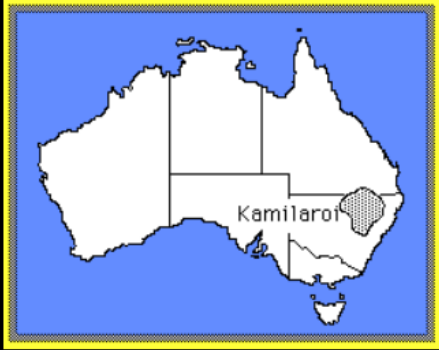
- 1850s William Ridley, Charles Greenway
- 1890s Katherine Langloh Parker, Peter Hippi, Boodha
- 1890s Robert H Mathews
- 1930s Gerhardt Laves, Norman Tindale
- 1950s Ian Sim: Ginny Rose, Willy Willis, Mrs West, Greg Fields
- 1955 Stephen Wurm – notes and tape

# Summary timeline since 1975

- 1972-5 Peter Austin – basic vocabulary and expressions
- 1970s Arthur Dodd, Fred Reece, recorded by Janet Mathews, Corinne Williams
- 1980 Corinne Williams' Grammar of Yuwaalaraay ~1500 words (wordlist, Yuwaalaraay)
- 1991-3 Peter Austin (with Bill Reid) – published dictionary ~500 words
- 1995-6 Austin, Nathan – WWW dictionary 1996
- 1995- John Giacom – reconstitution of old materials
- 2014 John Giacom, PhD Grammar of Yuwaalaraay Gamilaraay
- (ongoing) including community-based. Huge expansion in use of simple language



## Kamilaroi/Gamilaraay Web Dictionary



The Kamilaroi/ Gamilaraay language belongs to the Kamilaroi people and to Kamilaroi country, northern New South Wales, Australia

[To Dictionary\\_](#)

© 1998 Peter Austin and David Nathan

This electronic dictionary was launched 16th February 1996 at Moree NSW

<http://coombs.anu.edu.au/WWWVLPages/AborigPages/LANG/GAMDICT/GAMDICT.HTM>

<http://bit.do/gamdickt>

DN Kamilaroi/Gamilaraay Dictionary x +

dnathan.com/language/gamilaraay/dictionary/GAMDICTF.HTM

## Kamilaroi/Gamilaraay Dictionary Table of Contents

- 1. Dictionary**

How to use the dictionary: choose a first letter from below and/or use the Finderlists.

Hint: Use your browser's *FIND* function in the Finderlists to search for any English or Kamilaroi word. Then click on any Kamilaroi word to look up its main entry

Go to first letter ... [B](#) [D](#) [G](#) [M](#) [N](#) [T](#) [W](#) [Y](#)

(Kamilaroi words can only begin with these letters : see [Sounds and spelling](#))
- 2. Finderlists : [WORDLIST](#) or [THESAURUS](#)**
- 3. Other information**
  - [Preface](#)
  - [How to use the Kamilaroi dictionary](#)
  - [The Kamilaroi language](#)
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<http://bit.do/gamdickt>

DN Kamilaroi/Gamilaraay Dictionary x +

dnathan.com/language/gamilaraay/dictionary/GAMDICTF.HTM

**gari** *n*

- word, eg. **Burrulaa nhama mari gari guwaalda** 'Many people are talking'

**garra-li** *vt*

- to cut, eg. **Galamaaythu wii garralda** 'My brother is cutting firewood', **Nginda nhama wii garrala wiigu**. 'You cut the firewood for the fire!'

**garrangay** *n*

- black duck

**garri-y** *vi*

- to stop doing, to cease, eg. **Garriya nhama ngay nhaayiba gaanga** 'Don't take my knife!'

**garril** *n*

- cold, eg. **Ngaya garril nhama** 'I am cold'
- see also [bularri](#)

**garril** *n*

- leaf, \*recon
- see also [buu](#)

**garrimaay** *n*

- a. father's mother, \*Tindale recorded this form in the Namoi River dialect.
- see also [mamaay](#)
- b. wife's mother, mother-in-law, *Ethn.* an avoided relation. Reay (1945:310) says "until about 1895 a man wishing to speak to his mother-in-law could go part of the way to her camp and then turn back. He could then address her by shouting in the direction in which

willie wagtail [thirrihirri](#)  
 wind [maayirr](#)  
 wind, to break [buuba-li](#)  
 wing [bungun](#)  
 with force [bamba](#)  
 woman, Aboriginal [yinarr](#)  
 woman, old [yambi](#), [yambuli](#)  
 woman, white [wadjiin](#)  
 wonderful! [gathabal](#)  
 wood [wugan](#)  
 wood duck [gunambaay](#).  
 word [gari](#)  
 worn out [baramay](#).

**Y**

yam, type of [gubiyaay](#), [milaan](#), [nhaal](#), [warray](#)  
 yellow-belly fish [thagaay](#)  
 yes [ngaa](#), [yawu](#)  
 yesterday [gimiyandi](#)  
 you [nginda](#)  
 you all [ngindaay](#)  
 you two [ngindaali](#)  
 younger brother [galamaay](#), [thagan](#)  
 younger brother, my [thagan-di](#)  
 younger sister [bagaan](#), [bariyan](#)  
 younger sister, my [bagaan-di](#), [bariyan-di](#)  
 your [nginu](#)  
 youth, initiated [gubura](#)

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Kamilaroi/Gamilaraay Dictionary x +

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**M**

**maal** *n*

- one
- *see also* [bulaarr](#), [gulibaa](#)

**maala** *adv*

- once

**maal-duul** *n*

- none
- *see also* [marrayirr](#)

**maang** *n*

**B**

baby [gaayinggal](#)  
back [bawa](#), [guRiya](#)  
bad [gagil](#)  
bag [mangga](#)  
bag, string [gulay](#)  
Baime [baayama](#)  
bandicoot [guru](#)  
bark [nganda](#)  
bark of tree [tharraa](#)  
bark, to [gula-li](#)  
be ill, to [wiibi-li](#)  
be sick, to [wiibi-li](#)  
be, to [gi-gi](#)  
beard [yarray](#)  
bedroll [djaagarri](#)

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Dictionary: [B](#) [D](#) [G](#) [M](#) [N](#) [T](#) [W](#) [Y](#)

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<http://bit.do/gamdickt>

Extensive negotiations included action on ...

- 'rude' (anatomical) words
- extent of country shown on map



Kamilaroi/Gamilaraay Dictionary

dnathan.com/language/gamilaraay/dictionary/GAMDICT.HTM

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[To Dictionary\\_](#)

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This electronic dictionary was launched 16th February 1996 at Moree NSW

# Launch event, Moree NSW, 16th Feb 1996



The launch video:

[News item](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Local](#)



Elders



Kids



Attendees

[bit.do/gamdict](https://bit.do/gamdict)

Average users:

~1,000 per month

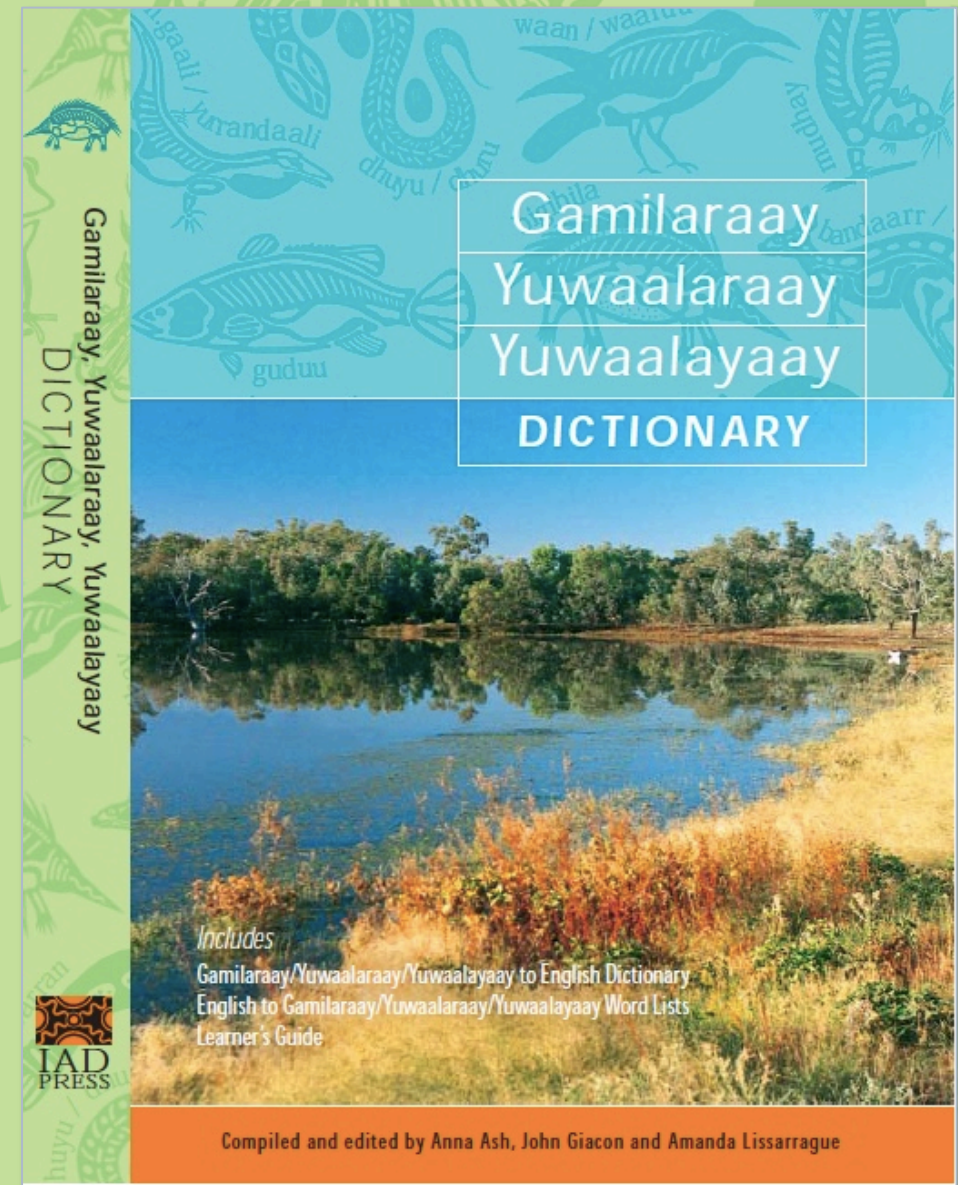
Lifetime > 200K



# Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay Yuwaalayaay Dictionary 2003

For article about development, see:

<https://ses.library.usyd.edu.au/handle/2123/6919>





# Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay Guladha

<https://yuwaalaraay.com/>

yuwaalaraay.com

HOME ABOUT CONTACT DONATE BLOGS

## Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay Guladha

Gamilaraay and Yuwaalaraay on the web

EARLY LEARNERS ▾ ADVANCED LEARNERS ▾ LINKS OLD SOURCES REFERENCES ONLINE RESOURCES

**YAAMA. HELLO.**

Mara buma-ya (Clap your hands) - Gunnedah South... Watch later Share

**SEARCH**

Search ...

**NHALAY NGAMILA. LOOK AT THIS.** Follow

# Launch of Gayarragi Winangali

- Koori Centre, Sydney by Prof Larissa Behrendt March 2009





GUNDHI  
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SONGS

YULUGI  
GAMES

MAYABIL  
LINKS

HELP X

Welcome

## Yaama, Hello

*Gayarragi, Winangali – Find and Hear:*

Search over 2000 Gamilaraay  
Yuwaalaraay words and listen to them.  
Hear over 1000 sentences spoken by  
traditional Yuwaalaraay speakers, listen  
to 30 songs and 13 stories, or do Gamilaraay  
and Yuwaalaraay crosswords.

John Giacon & David Nathan

*Gayarragi, Winangali* is dedicated to all the  
Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay people who have  
helped record and preserve the language,  
to those who are working to rebuild it, and  
to those who will speak it in future.

About Gamilaraay/Yuwaalaraay

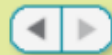
Maps

About this CD-ROM



Gayarragi, winangali  
live



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WORDSMANDI  
SENTENCESGUWAABAL  
STORIESYUGAL  
SONGSYULUGI  
GAMESMAYABIL  
LINKS

HELP X

## GY words

Click a first letter to begin

A B D G L M N P R U W Y

barra-li *vt*, sharpen  
 Barrali Mugulbaa *pl/n*; sharpening-tools place  
 barra-y *vi*, fly  
 barraay *adv*, fast, quickly  
 barraay milu gimbi-li *vp*; wink  
 barraaywan *adv*t, immediately  
 barrabandu *exc*t, shame!, oh no!  
 barrabarruun *n*; quail  
 barran *n*; 1. boomerang 2. Burren Junction  
 barranbaa *n*; 1. brigalow wattle 2. location  
 barranbuu *n*; nickname  
 barran.giiba *n*; boomerang maker  
 barran.giirr *adj*; new moon  
 barranbarraan *n*; millipede  
 barranda *n*; verandah  
 barrangga *n*; ground parrot (red-rumped parrot)  
 barrawan *n*; golden bandicoot  
 barrawan *n*; type of sedge  
 barrawaraay *n*; sugar ant  
 barrgabarrga *n*; wood duck

9 sentences found for barran

Go to sentences

barran

npln\*, placename

Gamilaraay, Yuwaalaraay, Yuwaalayaay

## a. boomerang

## b. Burren Junction (GR)

**barranbaa** *npln\**, placename Yuwaalaraay, Yuwaalayaay  
 a. brigalow wattle *Acacia harpophylla*

> A medium- to large-sized wattle which grows in large thickets known as 'brigalow scrub'.

## b. location (YR)

> A place for collecting timber for **barran** (boomerangs) near Goodooga. Probably from **barran** (boomerang) and **-baa** (place of, time of).

**barranbuu** *noun* Yuwaalaraay  
 nickname

> Said to refer to an old stockman who had bow legs. Based on **barran** (boomerang) and, possibly, **buyu** (leg).

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## Browse sentences

Sentences for *barran*

56

**Galaanbila****nhama barran!**

galaanbi-li -la nhama barran!  
 scrape -command that,the boomerang  
 Scrape that boomerang!

69

**Giirr nhama bubaay gilay dhurralaanha,****barrangiirr.**

giirr nhama bubaay gilay dhurra-li -laa-y -nha, barran -giirr.  
 really that,the small moon come -moving -Present boomerang -like  
 That new moon is rising, (it's) like a boomerang.

174

**Baayamba, gababala ngay barran.**

baayamba, gaba -bala ngay barran.  
 friend good -contrast my boomerang  
 Hey mate, my boomerang is better. [than yours]. [From Wuulaa and Gilaa story]

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## English words

Click a first letter to begin

A B C D E F G H I J K L M  
N O P Q R S T U V W Y Z

machinery: iron; machinery [gumbadhaa](#)  
 MacIntyre River: Boobera Lagoon or MacIntyre River  
[Gawubuwun Gunigal](#)  
 mad, crazy; stupid, silly; eccentric [wamba](#)  
 mad: silly, mad; pretending! [yaambul](#)  
 maggot; blowfly [gamugamuu](#)  
 magic stone [muuliyaay](#)  
 magpie goose [dhawudjarrdalmu](#)  
 magpie [burrugarrbuu](#), [muqarrabaa](#)  
 magpie-lark: peewee, magpie-lark [barriindiin](#),  
[birrgabirrga](#)  
 Major Mitchell cockatoo: pink cockatoo, Major Mitchell  
 cockatoo [gaqalarrin](#)  
 make (construct) [dhurra-li](#)  
 make (force) [buyawila-li](#)  
 make (something) happen [-ma-li](#)  
 make a corroboree: dance [dhan.gurrama-y](#)  
 make a fire, light a fire [wii wiima-li](#)  
 make better: fix, heal, make better [maayuma-li](#),  
[maayuma-li](#)

2 sentences found for wamba

[Go to sentences](#)

**wamba**

adjective

Gamilaraay, Yuwaalaraay, Yuwaalayaay

**a. mad, crazy**

**b. stupid, silly**

**c. eccentric**

> This word is still widely used.

**Wamba** *noun* Yuwaalayaay  
Canopus (star)

> The Wamba story tells that 'he went mad and is running away', the two green parrot sisters chased him across the sky. An associated phrase is [wamba bagaarr](#) [banagawaanha](#), from [wamba](#) (mad), [bagaarr](#) (shortcut) and [banaga-y](#) (run).

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## Search by topics

Click a topic to begin

People Culture Time/place Verbs  
Anim n/sky Other

General  
Descriptions  
Family  
Social organisation  
Men's social sections  
Women's social sections  
Professions, jobs  
Body parts  
Body fluids & products  
Spirits, beings & devils

dea  
nhalav  
nhiiya  
nhima  
nhuwi  
(nic  
wagib  
walan  
walan  
walingay 1. *out of place* 2. *lonely, sulky*  
wamba 1. *mad, crazy* 2. *stupid, silly* 3. *eccentric*  
waragaal 1. *left-handed* 2. *left*  
warrangal *strong, powerful*  
warrayaa *lost*  
wayagaal 1. *left-handed* 2. *left*  
wudha muurr *forgetful*  
wululgal *noisy mob*  
yaambul 1. *silly, mad* 2. *pretending!*  
yalabiyaay *not with it*  
yarrbun *very tired, exhausted*  
yarrbun maa ctumsu

2 sentences found for wamba

Go to sentences

🔊 wamba

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Language: Yuwaalaraay

## Miyay Garunggay: The Girl Will Drown

- Karen Flick

**"Garungga-y gi-yaa-nha, barraay banaga-ya**

garungga-y -y gi-yaa-nha barraay banaga-y -ya  
drown -Future going.to quickly run -command

**dhuwima-li-gu-nha gungan-di."**

dhuwima-li -li -gu -nha gungan -dhi  
remove -Future -purpose -that water -from

**Gunidjarr nhama bamba banaga-nhi.**

gunidjarr nhama bamba banaga-y -nhi  
mother that,the hard run -Past

**Bundaa-nhi gungan-da-bula.**

bundaa-gi -nhi gungan -ga -bula  
fall -Past water -in,at,on -also

"She is going to drown, run and pull her out from the water."

Her mother ran there quickly.

Then she fell into the water too.

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Play to end

Go back to story menu





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## Memory game

Gamilaraay, Animals, GY sound & GY spelling



Player 1

0

Player 2

0

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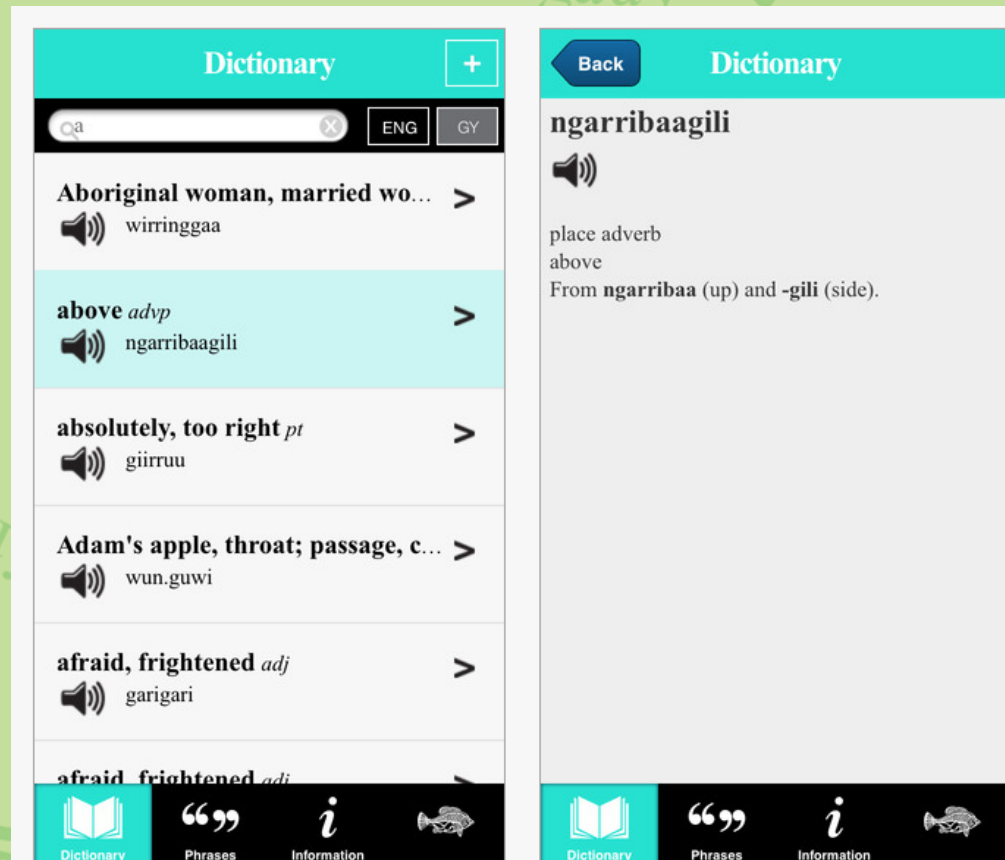
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# 'Ma! Gamilaraay' app

- data programmed and exported from Gayarragi Winangali
- valuable for word finding and spelling – for iOS users



# Indigenous dictionary may save the Miriwoong language from extinction

ABC Kimberley By Emily Jane Smith

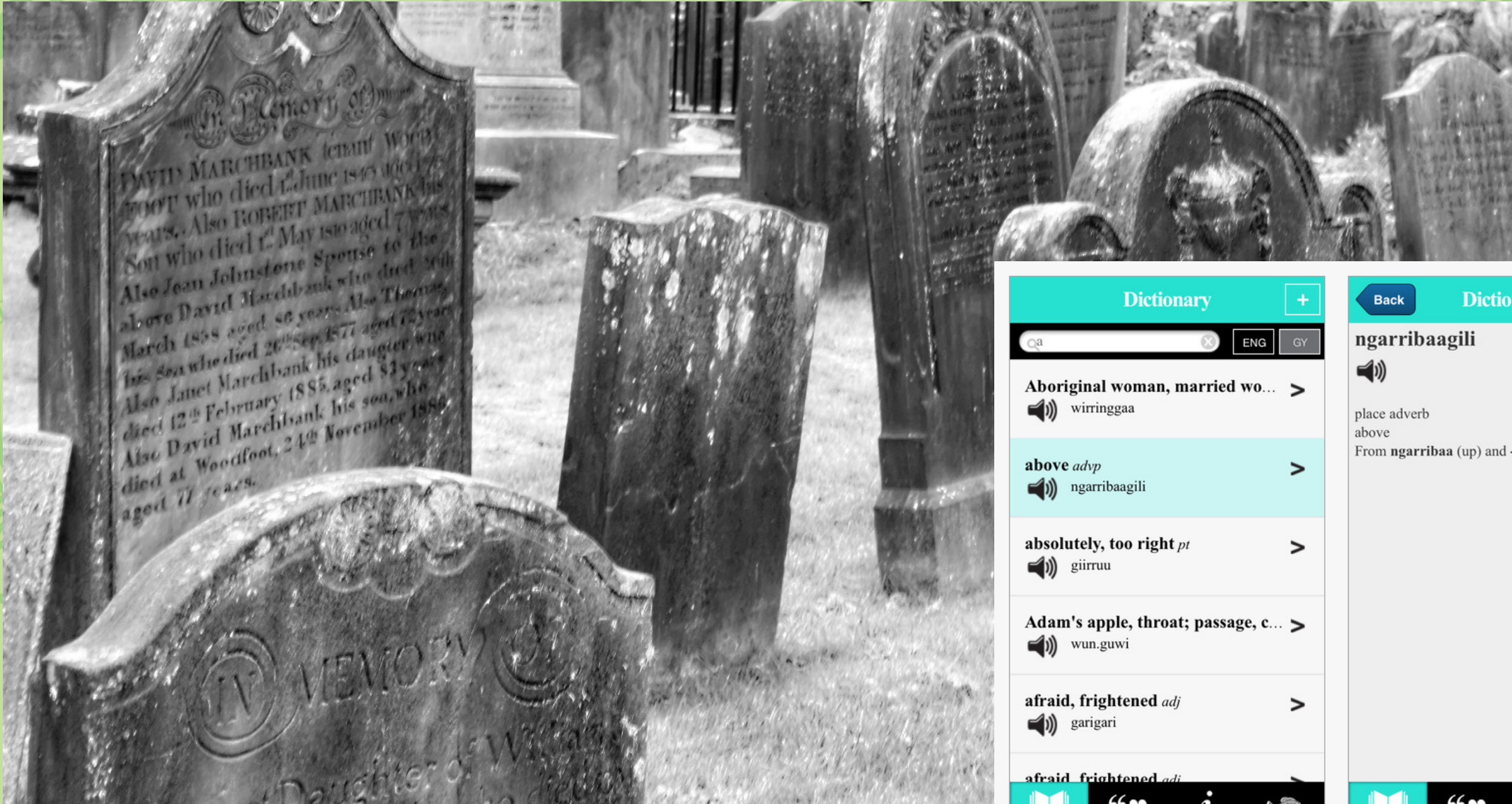
**national**

breaking news

## Phone app helps save indigenous language

DYING indigenous languages could be saved with the help of modern technology - smart phone applications.

# A graveyard of apps?



**Dictionary** +

ca ENG GY

**Aboriginal woman, married wo...** >  
wurringgaa

**above** *advp* >  
ngarribaagili

**absolutely, too right** *pt* >  
giirruu

**Adam's apple, throat; passage, c...** >  
wun.guwi

**afraid, frightened** *adj* >  
garigari

**afraid, frightened** *adi* >

**Dictionary** Back **Dictionary**

**ngarribaagili**

place adverb  
above  
From **ngarribaa** (up) and **-gili** (side).

Dictionary Phrases Information Dictionary Phrases Information

**barran** *npln\**, *placename*

- a. boomerang
- b. Burren Junction GR

Online: [barran](#) | [bina](#)

**barranbaa** *npln\**, *placename* Yuwaalaraay, Yuwaalayaay

a. brigalow wattle *Acacia harpophylla*

- A medium- to large-sized wattle which grows in large thickets known as 'brigalow scrub'.

b. location YR

- A place for collecting timber for [barran](#) (boomerangs) near Goodooga. Probably from [barran](#) (boomerang) and [-baa](#) (place of, time of).

**barranbuu** *noun* Yuwaalaraay

nickname

- Said to refer to an old stockman who had

**barran.giiba** *noun* Yuwaalaraay

boomerang maker

**barran.giirr** *adjective* Yuwaalayaay

new moon

- Used to describe the moon in its early pha

**barran** *npln\**, *placename*

- a. boomerang
- b. Burren Junction GR

**barranbaa** *npln\**, *placename* Yuwaalaraay, Yuwaalayaay

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**barranbuu** *noun* Yuwaalaraay

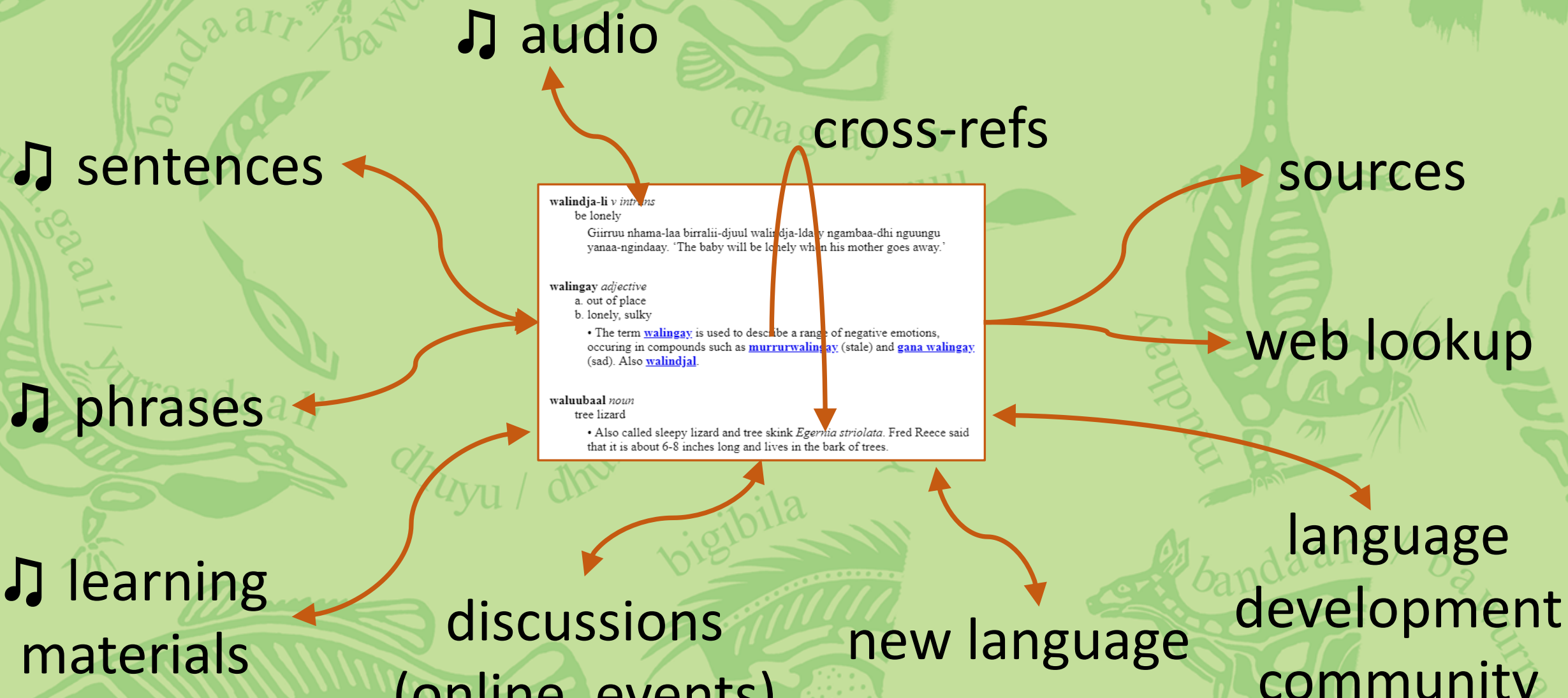
nickname

- Said to refer to an old stockman who had bow legs. Based on [barran](#) (boomerang) and, possibly, [buyu](#) (leg).

## *Gayarragi, Winangali* legacy

- its authoring platform nears end-of-life
- ... developed new interfaces, methods
- ... aided over 10 years of vigorous revitalisation
- ... data was corrected and improved
- ... its computational environment aided subsequent app development
- quality, dedication, responsiveness, appropriate engagement with technology are key (not technical or other criteria)

# Revival lexicon as “crossroads”





The new resource will  
appear late this year  
at:

[bit.do/gamilaraay](https://bit.do/gamilaraay)

Also under development:  
Gaaygaray app



# Aims of language revival

- Identity, control of one's life, language
- Reclaim, rebuild, reuse a traditional language

# Aims of language revival

- Identity, control of one's life, language

Emphasis: 'community' control

What is the community structure?

- Reclaim, rebuild, reuse a traditional language

Emphasis: linguistic continuity – lexicon, grammar.....

What structures, team is needed?

# Revival dictionaries (cf most dictionaries)

- Emblematic
- One dictionary
- One or few authors
- Source of information rather than the collector
- Greater standardising influence

# Revival dictionaries (cf most dictionaries)

- (Extremely) limited, old sources
- Gaps
  - Recorded information
  - Because it is in a new world
- Revival protocols; distribution control
- Nearly the sole language source

# Uses of the Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay Dictionary

- It has been used to develop many resources;
  - Songs: Head, shoulders, knees, toes,
  - Books: Trees of Yuwaalaraay country
  - Wordlists
  - Gayarragi Winangali
  - Apps

# Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay Dictionary and lexical expansion and semantic change

- Chosen
  - Gunii ('mother')
  - Wiyayl (extended; echidna quill > 'pen+')
- Modified by usage
  - Bandaarr (grey kangaroo > kangaroo)
  - Bumali ('hit': replaces other words)

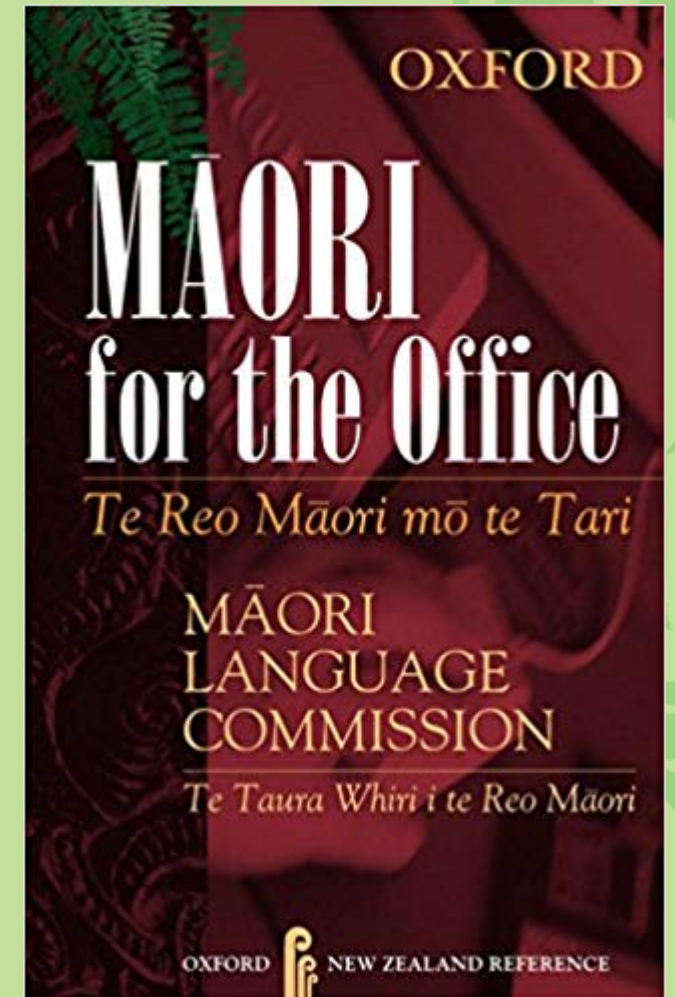
# Recent lexical development - numbers

|          |                     |
|----------|---------------------|
| balan    | zero                |
| maa      | five                |
| yuli     | six YR, YY, GR      |
| guulay   | seven YR, YY, GR    |
| galay    | eight YR, YY, GR    |
| mirraal  | nine YR, YY, GR     |
| banay    | ten YR, YY, GR      |
| barriga  | hundred YR, YY, GR  |
| dhawadha | thousand YR, YY, GR |
| wiwurra  | million YR, YY, GR  |



# Māori examples: centralisation

The image shows a screenshot of the Te Taka Pūmotu website, which features a periodic table of elements. The table is color-coded and includes Māori names for the elements. The title 'Te Taka Pūmotu' is prominently displayed at the top in a blue header. Below the title, there are two sections: 'Māori Pūmotu Māori' and 'Te Taka Pūmotu Kōwhiri'. The periodic table is organized into groups and periods, with elements color-coded in shades of yellow, orange, and green. A legend at the bottom left explains the color coding: yellow for 'Te Taka Pūmotu', orange for 'Te Taka Pūmotu Kōwhiri', and green for 'Te Taka Pūmotu Kōwhiri'. The website also includes a search bar and navigation links.



“differential equation model” = *tauirā whārite pāronaki*

# Aims of language revival

- Identity, control of one's life, language

Emphasis: 'community' control

- Reclaim, rebuild, reuse a traditional language

Emphasis: linguistic continuity – lexicon, grammar.....

# Revival: hybridity and fragmentation

- Hybridity:
  - revived language is a mixture of the traditional language and the reviver's first language (here, English)
- Semantic hybridity:
  - traditional form, English meanings
- Fragmentation:
  - reviving language can develop in fairly small, linguistically insulated spaces, each of which develops its unique version of the language

# Current lexical development: example

Days of the week:

- Request from child care centre
- Discussion document
- Posted on blog, Facebook,
- Feedback
- Words suggested by a Gamilaraay woman and language teacher adopted

Use of one traditional language feature in lexical development: two element verb roots

*dha-* 'test'

| <b>GY</b>         | <b>Gloss</b> | <b>Second part of root</b> |
|-------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| <i>dha.ma-li</i>  | feel         | hand                       |
| <i>dha.dha-li</i> | taste        | mouth                      |
| <i>dha.ya-li</i>  | ask          | speak                      |

Recent 'traditional' lexical development  
using **biyuu** 'far' and the verb suffix **-ya-li** 'talk':

- **biyuuya-li** *verb transitive.* telephone - from YR
- **biyuuyal** *noun.* Telephone
- **biyuuyalduul** *noun.* mobile telephone (-duul 'small')
- **yalduul** 'mobile'

(in app *Ma! Gamilaraay*)

see also <http://tinyurl.com/jgpublications>, "dictionary supplement"

# Verb roots in closely related languages

- Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay; Wangaaybuwan
- dha/nga 'test' – first element of verb root

| GY                | Gloss | Second part of root | Wangaaybuwan | Gloss |
|-------------------|-------|---------------------|--------------|-------|
| <i>dha.ma-li</i>  | feel  | hand                |              |       |
| <i>dha.dha-li</i> | taste | mouth               |              |       |
| <i>dha.ya-li</i>  | ask   | speak               |              |       |
|                   |       |                     |              |       |
|                   |       |                     |              |       |
|                   |       |                     |              |       |

# Choices in lexical development

- Would GY developing calques of the Wangaaybuwan words which are not recorded in GY be a way of maintaining more of the traditional language? Even if these are not recorded in any GY source?
- Is the alternative to develop new words, which are semantic equivalents of English words?
- These to go into dictionary/blog/Facebook for discussion?



## Transitive verb roots in Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay, and Wangaaybuwan (closely related)

**dha/nga**      **'test'**

| GY                | Gloss | Second part of root | Wangaaybuwan        | Gloss |
|-------------------|-------|---------------------|---------------------|-------|
| <i>dha.ma-li</i>  | feel  | hand                | <i>nga.ma-li</i>    | feel  |
| <i>dha.dha-li</i> | taste | mouth               | <i>nga.nhdha-li</i> | taste |
| <i>dha.ya-li</i>  | ask   | speak               | <i>nga.yaama-y</i>  | ask   |
|                   |       |                     |                     |       |
|                   |       |                     |                     |       |
|                   |       |                     |                     |       |
|                   |       |                     |                     |       |

## Transitive verb roots in Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay, and Wangaaybuwan (closely related)

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| <i>dha.dha-li</i> | taste | mouth               | <i>nga.nhdha-li</i> | taste            |
| <i>dha.ya-li</i>  | ask   | speak               | <i>nga.yaama-y</i>  | ask              |
|                   |       | pierce              | <i>nga.ngga-li</i>  | test (poke hole) |
|                   |       | do.away             | <i>nga.mbi-li</i>   | test-do.away     |
|                   |       | dhina 'foot'        | <i>nga.nhdhi-li</i> | test w foot      |

## Transitive verb roots in Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay, and Wangaaybuwan (closely related)

**dha/nga** 'test'

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| <i>dha.ya-li</i>  | ask   | speak               | <i>nga.yaama-y</i>  | ask              |
| <i>dha.ga-li</i>  |       | pierce              | <i>nga.ngga-li</i>  | test (poke hole) |
| <i>dha.bi-li</i>  |       | do.away             | <i>nga.mbi-li</i>   | test-do.away     |
| <i>dha.dhi-li</i> |       | dhina 'foot'        | <i>nga.nhdhi-li</i> | test w foot      |

**manu** 'do to somebody else's'

| Yuwaalaraay       | Gloss | Second part of root | Wangaaybuwan         | Gloss               |
|-------------------|-------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>manu.ma-li</i> | steal | hand                | <i>manu.ma-li</i>    | steal               |
|                   |       | mouth               | <i>manu.nhdha-li</i> | steal (dog)         |
|                   |       | move away           | <i>manu.mbi-li</i>   | steal?              |
|                   |       | pierce              | <i>manu.ngga-li</i>  | steal               |
|                   |       |                     |                      |                     |
|                   |       | foot                | <i>manu.nhdhi-li</i> | steal ball?? soccer |



# manu 'do to somebody else's'

| Yuwaalaraay        | Gloss | Second part of root | Wangaaybuwan         | Gloss               |
|--------------------|-------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>manu.ma-li</i>  | steal | hand                | <i>manu.ma-li</i>    | steal               |
| <i>manu.dha-li</i> |       | mouth               | <i>manu.nhdha-li</i> | steal (dog)         |
| <i>manu.bi-li</i>  |       | move away           | <i>manu.mbi-li</i>   | steal?              |
| <i>manu.ga-li</i>  |       | pierce              | <i>manu.ngga-li</i>  | steal               |
|                    |       |                     |                      |                     |
| <i>manu.dhi-li</i> |       | foot                | <i>manu.dhi-li</i>   | steal ball?? soccer |

# Aims of lexical development

- Has community involvement, support, approval
- Expands language use
- Maintains traditional patterns
- Is easily distributed and maintains language coherence

# Structures for lexical development

- Organisational
  - For another time
    - Long-term team; funding
- Lexicographic
  - Online dictionary which has multiple layers:
    - The usual fields
      - Discussion and survey material
      - Very clear semantic and syntactic information
      - ...





Uncle Ted Fields 1936 - 2006

Yuwaalaraay / Ularoi Elder and language champion

# Contacts and sources

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[dnathan@alcnt.com.au](mailto:dnathan@alcnt.com.au)


## Web:

[bit.do/gamilaraay](http://bit.do/gamilaraay) [this slideshow and other resources]

[bit.do/gamdickt](http://bit.do/gamdickt) [web dictionary]

[tinyurl.com/facebookgy](http://tinyurl.com/facebookgy) [community discussion]

[yuwaalaraay.com](http://yuwaalaraay.com)

- 
- Thank you
  - The end